

REMARKS

Claims 26-29 and 32 are now pending in the above-referenced application and are submitted for the Examiner's reconsideration

Regarding the rejection based on Boecking, claim 26 recites that a restoring spring pressing against a valve needle has pre-stress applied to it by a sleeve and that an adjusting body is situated in the sleeve in an adjustable manner such that a fuel amount flowing through the fuel injector per unit of time is dependent on the position of adjusting body in the sleeve; the adjusting body is fastened having direct contact to the sleeve ("... a sleeve to pre-stress the restoring spring; and an adjusting body placed in direct contact with the sleeve so as to be adjustable so that a fuel amount flowing per unit of time through the fuel injector depends on a position of the adjusting body in the sleeve."). None of the above-mentioned features can be gathered from the common-rail injector by Boecking. Rather, this common-rail injector has a sleeve 16 axially movable in a nozzle needle 5, which is pressed against the injector housing 1 by a nozzle spring 12. The sleeve 16 therefore is precisely not used to adjust the spring tension of restoring spring 23; rather, in Boecking, the sleeve 16 is able to move counter to the tension of the nozzle spring 12. An adjustment of the spring tension of the nozzle spring 12 is not possible via the sleeve 16. Thus, we are dealing here with a completely different functional principle. Neither does Boecking provide in any form whatsoever an adjusting body in the sleeve 16, which is situated so as to be adjustable, such that a fuel amount flowing through the fuel injector per unit of time depends on the position of the adjusting body in the sleeve 16. Since no adjusting body is provided at all, then, of course, the feature that "the adjusting body 40 is attached having direct contact to the sleeve 24" can in no way be anticipated by Boecking.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of the present application is new, non-obvious, and useful. Prompt consideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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